

-15-

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A heat exchanger construction (10) including a plurality of flat heat exchanger tubes (12) and a tube plate (18). The tube plate (18) has an exterior side (20), an interior side (22), and a plurality of tube openings (24) spaced along a longitudinal axis (26). Each of the tubes (12) includes a pair of opposed long sides (29) and a pair of opposed short sides (30). Each of the tubes (12) has an end (34) received in one of the tube openings (24) and extending past the interior side (22). Each of the ends (34) includes a pair of long edges (36) defined by the long sides (28). Each of the tubes (12) has a cut (38) in each of its short sides (30) extending from the end (34) to adjacent the interior side (22) of the tube plate (18). Each of the tubes further includes a bend (40) formed in each of the long sides (28) of the tube (12) adjacent the cut (38) so that the long edges (36) of the tube (12) are adjacent the long edges (36) of the tube (12) on either side of the tube (12).